

Br. Ex. 133

PRESS RELEASE ISSUED BY THE JAPANESE EMBASSY ON APRIL
15, 1940

On being questioned by newspapermen concerning Japan's position with regard to possible involvement of the Netherlands in the European war and its repercussions in the Netherlands East Indies, Foreign Minister Arita replied as follows:

"With the South Seas regions, especially the Netherlands East Indies, Japan is economically bound by an intimate relationship of mutuality in ministering to one another's needs. Similarly, other countries of East Asia maintain close economic relations with these regions. That is to say, Japan, these countries and these regions together are contributing to the prosperity of East Asia through mutual aid and interdependence.

"Should hostilities in Europe be extended to the Netherlands and produce repercussions, as you say, in the Netherlands East Indies, it would not only interfere with the maintenance and furtherance of the above-mentioned relations of economic interdependence and of co-existence and co-prosperity, but would also give rise to an undesirable situation from the standpoint of the peace and stability of East Asia. In view of these considerations, the Japanese Government can not but be deeply concerned over any development accompanying an aggravation of the war in Europe that may affect the status quo of the Netherlands East Indies."

Foreign Relations II, p. 281

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220C (2)

一九四〇年（昭和十五年）四月十五日 日本大使館
上工作員から見た新聞記事解説

歐洲戰爭の事に従事和蘭の經濟に關する日本
の地位と蘭領東印度に於ける其の反響とに関し
新聞記事に貢献した際、有田外相は次のように答へた。即ち
日本は、南方海域、殊に蘭領東印度と相互に必需物
資の供給に於て、親密な相互依存関係に經濟上結ば
れてゐる。同様に東亜に於ける他の諸国、また之等地域
と緊密な經濟的関係を保持してゐる。
即ち日本之等諸国及び之等の地域は、共に相互援助
と相互依存に依り、東亜の繁榮に寄與する所も大である。
「歐洲戰争が若し和蘭に反響するに云ふ如く、蘭領
東印度に反響を生ずる事に付すれば、夫は單に上述
せた至満的相互依存関係並に其の繁榮の維持促進
の如きが、亦東亜の平和と安定の見地からして
好ましからざる事態を惹起することに付する。斯がる
見地より、日本政府は、蘭領東印度の現状に影響
を與ふるが如き歐洲に於ける戰争の悪化に伴ひ、か
なたに進展にも深き関心を持たざるを得ない、

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PRESS RELEASE ISSUED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE ON
April 17, 1940

Excerpt.

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"Intervention in the domestic affairs of the Netherlands Indies or any alteration of their status quo by other than peaceful processes would be prejudicial to the cause of stability, peace, and security not only in the region of the Netherlands Indies but in the entire Pacific area.

"This conclusion, based on a doctrine which has universal application and for which the United States unequivocally stands, is embodied in notes exchanged on November 30, 1908, between the United States and Japan in which each of the two Governments stated that its policy was directed to the maintenance of the existing status quo in the region of the Pacific Ocean. It is reaffirmed in the notes which the United States, the British Empire, France, and Japan -- as parties to the treaty signed at Washington on December 13, 1921, relating to their insular possessions and their insular dominions in the region of the Pacific Ocean--sent to the Netherlands Government on February 4, 1922, in which each of those Governments declared that 'it is firmly resolved to respect the rights of the Netherlands in relation to their insular possessions in the region of the Pacific Ocean.'"

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Foreign Relations II, p. 281
at p. 282.

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電報

一九四〇年(昭和十五年)四月十七日國務省發新聞記
事解禁

拔萃

蘭領印度、内政干涉或和平的順=依ラザル蘭
領印度、現状変化ハ軍ニ蘭領印度地域ミナラス全
太平域、安定平和及び安全ヲ害スル事ナルテラ
其、適用=普遍性有スル事が出来、アメリカ合衆
國判然ト支特ニテ井川主義ニ基テ此決定ハ一九〇八年
(明治三十二年)十一月三十日米蘭ニ文換サシテ
明示スル所アリ該覺書=於テ西國政府、未シハ其
政策ハ太平洋域、現状維持ヲ目指スモ、ナル事ヲ聲明
シテナル。此、事ハ一九二一年(大正十年)十一月十三日、草
盛領ニ於テ署名サシタル太平洋方面、島嶼占有並ビ=
島嶼支配權ニ關スル條約、為盟國トシテ、アメリカ合衆國
大英帝國、佛蘭西及ビ日本が、一九二二年(大正十一年)二月
四日和蘭政府ニ送リテ該覺書=ヲ再確認サシテ居、
此、覺書、中テ前記各國政府ハ太平洋方面、島嶼占有
ニ關シテ和蘭、權利ヲ尊重スル事=確定也。上記

外交關係部令第ニ八頁及第ニ八頁

MEMORANDUM BY THE AMBASSADOR IN JAPAN (GREW)

Excerpt

(TOKYO,) June 10, 1940

After his opening remark above referred to, the Minister had commented that the bulk of the United States fleet remains in Hawaiian waters. My reply was that Hawaii is American territory and that one of our most important naval ports is that of Pearl Harbor, and I went on to say that the fact that our fleet remains in Hawaiian waters represents no threat whatsoever to Japan. The Minister, however, replied that the continued stay of our fleet in those waters constitutes an implied suspicion of the intentions of Japan vis-a-vis the Netherlands East Indies and the South Seas, and he desired categorically to assert that Japan entertains no territorial ambitions. Quite to the contrary, he added, Japan is exerting her best efforts to promote good relations with her neighbors, and he cited as an example that a non-aggression pact is to be signed within a few days with Thailand. The emphasis which the Minister placed upon this matter is an indication of the important effect on Japanese consciousness of the stay of our naval forces in Hawaii.

Foreign Relation II, p. 67
at p. 69

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Doc. 220 C (4)

日本駐在大使（ルイ・エミール）書

（東京）一九四〇年（昭和十五年）六月十日

拔萃

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先述ベタ開会、候修後テ大臣、米國艦隊、太半が布哇
海域ニ留ミテ半斗述ベノ私、布哇ハ米國合衆國領土ニア
且ツ我國最重要海軍々港、一ツが眞珠灣軍港ニア半斗答
辯シタ、而テ私更ニ我國、艦隊が布哇海域ニ留ミテ半斗
云々事実、何等日本ニ討ニ付賀威ヲ表スモノナリト云ツシ、
併シ乍ラ大臣、我軍艦隊が引領半斗之等海域、停泊スル事ハ
蘭領東印度及ビ南海ニ討ニテ日本が意圖ヲ有スルトイフ言
外、疑惑生スルト答ヘソニテ彼、日本が何等領土的野望
ヲ抱懐セサルヲ明確ニ断言シテ云ツシ、其レ所ク日本
ハ隣國上、友好關係ヲ促進サセル爲ニ最善、努力ヲ拂テ
半斗付言ニ、其例上ニテ教日中ニ泰國ト不可侵條約ガ調印
サルト云フトヲ引用シテ、此事ヲ大臣が強調シテ半斗、我
海軍、布哇停泊、日本人、意識ニ宣大丁影響ヲ拂ヘテ半斗
ト示スモノアツシ

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外交關係 二

第六十七乃至第六十九頁